

ABSTRACT

BREATHING APPARATUS

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5 A breathing apparatus is described, comprising a supply of breathable gas and a facepiece by which breathable gas is supplied to a wearer, the facepiece comprising a supply valve for delivering gas to the interior of the facepiece, and an exhaust opening closeable by an exhaust valve for allowing the egress of gas from the facepiece, wherein the exhaust valve comprises a movable diaphragm which, in a first position, closes the exhaust opening in the facepiece, the diaphragm being movable to a second position displaced toward the interior of the facepiece relative to the first position and still in sealing engagement with the exhaust opening, and a third position displaced outwardly of the facepiece relative to the first position and in which the exhaust opening is open to allow the egress of gas, the diaphragm being biased towards the second position by biasing means, and the diaphragm engaging operating means to open the supply valve when in the second position.

A sealing element is preferably interposed between the diaphragm and the exhaust opening.